

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re patent application of

Francesco A. Campisano

Conf. No.: 8459

Serial No.: 10/079,651

Group Art Unit: 2621

Filed: February 20, 2002

Examiner: D. Czekaj

For: LOW LATENCY VIDEO DECODER WITH HIGH-QUALITY,
VARIABLE SCALING AND MINIMAL FRAME BUFFER MEMORY

Commissioner for Patents
United States Patent and Trademark Office
P. O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

COMMUNICATION AND INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.56

Sir:

Under the provisions of 37 C.F.R. §1.97 - 1.99 and pursuant to applicants' duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. §1.56, it is requested that U. S. Patent 5,771,075 to Rim et al. be made of record in the above-identified application.

On January 7, 2010, the undersigned was contacted by Examiner Czekaj, requesting authorization for an Examiner's Amendment to claim 1. The Examiner also suggested that prosecution might be reopened after a Decision on Appeal to make a rejection based on U. S. Patent 5,771,075 to Rim et al. unless the proposed Examiner's Amendment was authorized.

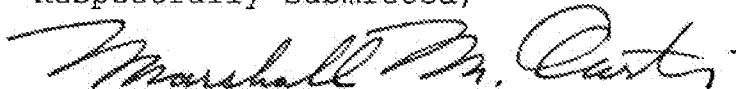
Upon review of Rim et al., it was respectfully pointed out to the Examiner that Rim et al. is not at all relevant to synchronization of decoding, as claimed but, rather, the signal indicating completion of decoding of a previous frame is used to enable transfer of the decoded image data from frame memory 14 to an audio/video playing portion 16 when the presentation time stamp (PTS) matches the system clock reference (SCR) or program clock reference. See column 5, lines 32 - 62 and column 6, lines 26 - 52. Decoding remains synchronized to the decoding time stamp (DTS) as indicated, for example, at column 1, lines 21 - 24, and column 5, line 63 to column 6, line 11. The proposed Examiner's Amendment was respectfully declined since it was not deemed to be accurately descriptive of the invention.

However, in an effort to satisfy the Examiner and while not believed necessary to distinguish over Rim et al. or any other prior art of record, an alternative Examiner's Amendment was proposed to Examiner Czeka on January 11, 2010, to emphasize that the frame switch point is "determined" as previously claimed and thus "variable" and that the "decoding" as previously claimed is synchronized to the later occurring of either the frame switch point (based on the completion of decoding of a previous frame, as previously claimed) or the beginning of scanning of a bottom border of a scaled image (at which point the previous frame will have been read out of storage and memory will be available to receive decoded data) in order to advance the beginning of decoding of a frame prior to the vertical blanking

interval and thus increase available decoding time as discussed in detail on page 20 of the disclosure as originally filed. The alternative Examiner's Amendment was accepted by the Examiner and authorized by the undersigned.

It is also respectfully submitted that this Communication and Information Disclosure Statement could not have been submitted at any significantly earlier date and should be entered for the record and without requirement of any fee even though the prosecution of this application is closed. Allowance of the application is respectfully submitted to be in order and such action is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Marshall M. Curtis". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the beginning and a distinct ending.

Marshall M. Curtis
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